

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 01750 090320Z
ACTION EA-12

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-----025786 092004Z /47

R 090018Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2626
INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 1750

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, OVIP (MONDALE, WALTER), AS
SUBJECT: SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES FOR VICE PRESIDENT'S TRIP

1. HEAD OF USA SECTION (ED RIDE) AT THE FOREIGN
OFFICE CALLED EMBASSY THIS MORNING ON A FISHING EXPE-
DITION RE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS DURING VICE PRESIDENT
MONDALE'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

2. FOREIGN OFFICE IS RECOMMENDING THAT SPECIFIC ISSUES
WHICH DO NOT INVOLVE GLOBAL POLICY MATTERS NOT REPT NOT
BE RAISED BY THE AUSTRALIAN SIDE. RIDE MENTIONED TRANS-
PACIFIC AIR RIGHTS (CONTINENTAL AIRLINES), URANIUM ANTI-
TRUST INVESTIGATION, KANGAROO HIDES, WHALE OIL, AND
DILLINGHAM, AS EXAMPLES.

3. FOREIGN OFFICE HOPES, RATHER, THAT DISCUSSIONS WITH THE
VICE PRESIDENT CAN CENTER AROUND MORE IMPORTANT "GLOBAL"
ISSUES, SUCH AS THE U.S. ROLE IN EAST ASIA AND THE
PACIFIC, THE EVOLVING U.S. RELATIONSHIP WITH CHINA,
INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ISSUES, HUMAN
RIGHTS, SALT, THE MIDDLE EAST, SOUTHERN AFIRCA, ASEAN,
ENERGY POLICY, ETC. THE GOA VIEWS THE VICE PRESIDENT'S
VISIT AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EXCHANGING VIEWS AT THE
HIGHEST AUTHORITATIVE LEVEL, NOT AS A FORUM FOR THRASHING
AROUND SOME OF THE GRITTIER MATTERS BETWEEN OUR TWO
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COUNTRIES.

4. RIDE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HIS MINISTERS WOULD BE BRIEFED
ON LESSER TOPICS, SHOULD THEY ARISE, BUT -- WITHOUT QUITE
SAYING SO -- CLEARLY HOPED WE MIGHT SHARE GOA'S VIEW ABOUT
THE NATURE OF ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION DURING THE VICE
PRESIDENT'S VISIT. WE SAID WE WOULD PROMPTLY REPORT GOA'S

VIEWS TO WASHINGTON.

ALSTON

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Message Attributes

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